(b) what are the details of the essential commodities the imports of which are not canalised and what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI) : (a) Canalisation is an instrument of Policy to regulate import and export of certain goods because of their sensitivity or on account of commercial advantage.

(b) Import of items, not specifically mentioned in the list of canalised items, is regulated in terms of relevant provisions of the Import and Export Policy, 1985-86, subject to prescribed conditions. The reasons for these items not having been canalised is the non-fulfilment of canalisation *criteria.*

Amount spent on publicity in foreign countries for the promotion of tourism in the country

2836. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total amount spent by Government in foreign countries for promoting tourism during the last three years, year-wise and upto 31st March, 1986;

(b) what are the different heads under which this expenditure was incurred and the amount spent under each head year-wise during the above period; and

(c) what are the achievements in the matter of tourism promotion as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) The amounts spent by Government in foreign countries for promotion of tourism during the last 3 years year-wise were as follows :—

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1983-84	211.56
1984-85	241.12
1985-86	458.41

Within the overall budget allocated, the overseas offices meet the expenditure for various promotional activities like Trade seminars, India Evenings, Travel Marts, Production of promotional material, and Product Advertising.

(c) As a result of the promotion activities undertaken by various overseas offices, India has been established as a premier holiday destination. This has been reflected in the steady increase in tourist arrivals over the last 5 years, the current year's arrival figures reflecting around 17.1% increase over the previous year's arrivals.

Benami bank accounts in Punjab National Bank, Dibrugarh, Assam

2837. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received on the 11th August, 1986 detailed information in writing about (i) benami bank accounts of Punjab National Bank, Dibrugarh (Assam) involving transactions worth lakhs of rupees and (ii) an illegal current account opened at the United Industrial Bank Limited, Dibrugarh in collusion with both the Branch Manager and Accountant and subsequent withdrawal of several lakhs of rupees fraudulently from the said account; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what followup action has been taken in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The allegations are being looked into.

Illegal current account opened at Dibrugarh branch of the United Industrial Bank Ltd.

2838. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a case of criminal conspiracy in connection with an illegal current account opened at the Dibrugarh branch of the United Industrial Bank Ltd. in collusion with both the Branch Manager and Accountant and fraudulent withdrawal of several lakhs of rupees from the said account subsequently was registered at the Dibrugarh Police Station (Assam) on 21st November, 1985;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what follow-up action has been taken so far in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and to the extent available and permissible under the statutes will be laid on the Table of the House.

Apprehending of a London-based woman terrorist at the New Delhi International Airport

2839. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a London-based woman terrorist of Indian origin who was being flown back to Britain along with an official of the British High Commission was detained by the immigration authorities at the New Delhi international airport in October, 1986; if so, what are the details in this regard and what action has been taken against her; and

(b) whether the issue has been officially taken up with the British High Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The Immigration authorities detained Mrs. Kuldip Kaur, a U.K. passport holder at the Indira Gandhi International Airport on 18th October, 1986. An official of the British High Commission, Miss K. Doherty, had accompanied the U.K. national to the airport. Mrs. Kuldip Kaur was produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate on 6th November, 1986, who remanded her to custody. She has been charged under Section 3 and 4 of the Terrorists and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1985.

(b) Yes, Sir.

News-item captioned "The Nun Runner"

2840. SHRI T. R. BALU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "The Nun Runner" which was published in 'India Today' of 31st August, 1986 and also in 'Illustrated Weekly' of 7th Septembr, 1986 issue;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted under Passport Act against the accused Shri Cyriac Puthenpurackal and his institution Nirmala Bhavan; if not, what are the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to declare him "absconding" as he is not traceable in Kerala and also confiscate his personal properties and Nirmala Bhavan; and

(d) what steps are being taken to prevent him from cheating innocent and poor people any more in Kerala or elsewhere ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWTR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) All relevant information is being collected. A report will be placed on the Table of the House.

Indian diplomats involved in smuggling activities

2841. SHRI K. GOPALAN :
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many Indian diplomats abroad were found to be indulging in smuggling activities during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether anyone was accused of smuggling heroin; if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned "Return Indian Diplomat say three UK MPs" which appeared in the Times of India on 4th November, 1986;

(d) if so, whether any action has been initiated against the concerned diplomat; if so, what are the details thereof; and